

Police Bullets

A Publication of the Coon Rapids Police Department

December 2015



Theft on the Rise During the Holiday Season

When you think of "The Grinch" what comes to mind? Here in Coon Rapids, several people have been acting like "The Grinch" by ruining the holidays for others. This time of year, the number of thefts from stores, mailboxes, vehicles and front steps increases drastically. As in past years, our city has had an increase of thefts during the holiday months. There are several ways to decrease your chance of becoming a victim of theft. Here are a few tips:

1) Many of us will be receiving products through the mail. If you are not able to be home at the expected delivery time, consider another option for your package delivery. You could: ask a neighbor to get the package and hold on to it for you, ask a family member to pick it up for you, request the item be insured (it requires a signature from someone over 21 years old), or ask if you could pick the item up at a store.

2) We also recommend putting mail in the out going blue mail boxes instead of your home mailbox. You should also pick up your mail as soon as possible from your home mailbox, and you can also add a locking mechanism to your current mailbox.

3) Don't leave valuables visible in your vehicle. If you must have them in your car, place them in your trunk prior to arriving at your destination.

Thinking ahead can help you from becoming a victim of theft!



Fraud and Scams Continue

Please don't give your money to scammers.

- Never wire anyone money that you don't personally know.
- Never buy gift cards and give someone the card number and PIN.
- Never pay someone for services you did not agree to.

Your grandson is not in jail in a foreign country, you do not work for the secret shoppers, and no one is mailing you extra money which you need to send them back.

If you are questioning whether something is legitimate or not, call and ask us. We can help you determine if it is okay to send money. We would rather hear from you beforehand, because after you have already sent the money, it is very unlikely that we will be able to get your money back.

Cold Temperatures and Pets

Each year, the Coon Rapids Police Department receives calls of pets being left out in the cold. Remember, if it's too cold outside for you, it's too cold for your pet. Please keep your pets indoors when the temperatures are extremely cold. Even though it's been a warm winter so far, we all know the cold temperatures are coming. "Fido" and your neighbors thank you.



**See Something?
Say Something!
Call 9-1-1 to report
suspicious activity!**



December Crime Stats

Robbery	5
Residential Burglary	6
Business Burglary	6
Theft from Vehicle	21
Theft from Mailbox	1
Vehicle Theft	3

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NEW Police Department Facebook Page

We want to connect with you! Your eyes and ears are important to our policing efforts! That's why the Coon Rapids Police Department has recently set up a Facebook page. Staff members will be posting information related to community crime and prevention. You will see updates about important crime-fighting information, photos of suspects or other stories and information where we feel the public needs to be informed.

Just because you will start to see more information about crime and crime-fighting, it doesn't mean we have more crime occurring in our city. In fact, the city's crime levels are at a historic low. It just means we want to get you, the public, more involved in our informational and crime-fighting efforts!

In December, an alert citizen saw two suspects going through mail in mailboxes. The alert citizen called 911, police were dispatched to the scene, and after a short chase, the suspects were arrested and charged with two counts of felony mail theft. Alert citizens make all the difference when it comes to fighting crime! That's why we want to interact with you through social media. We hope you will "like" our Coon Rapids Police Department Page (just search for Coon Rapids Police Department on Facebook) and tell your neighbors and friends to do the same. The department also has a Twitter page, so please follow us there too! And if you haven't checked out our videos on YouTube, please do so!



Coon Rapids Police Officers are Proud to Wear the Badge!

#WhyIWeartheBadge

